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**Inventory
for
Manuscript Collection
MS-432**

Capt. John B. Stahl Papers
Inclusive dates: 1892-1903
Bulk dates: 1898-1900

**by
Anastasia S. Weigle**
Edited by Nathan R. Lipfert

April 2009

**Shelf feet: .5
Number of boxes: 1**
Accession # 2006.087.01

A PART OF THE CAPTAIN W. J. LEWIS PARKER BEQUEST

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ABSTRACT

Stahl, John B., Jr., *Captain*, (1848-1920)

Papers, 1892-1903 (bulk 1898-1900)

1 box (.5 shelf feet)

Master mariner and ship owner of Waldoboro (ME).

Vessel papers of Captain John B. Stahl, Jr. master of the barkentine *E. O. Clark*, and master and co-owner of the four-mast schooner *Nimbus* and the bark *William Hales*. Papers include ownership papers, correspondences, invoices, charter parties and protest papers.

Bequeathed by Capt. William J. L. Parker in 2006.

MS-432, accession #2006.087.01

Finding aid in repository; folder level control.

Added entries—persons:

Stahl, John B., Jr., *Captain*, (1848-1920)

Added entries—corporate bodies (including vessels)

E. O. Clark (Barkentine)

J. H. Flitner & Co. (Boston, Mass.)

Nimbus (Schooner)

William Hales (Bark)

Added entries—key terms:

Ship brokers

Ship captains

Shipping

Shipowners

Waldoboro (Me.)

ACQUISITION

This collection was bequeathed to Maine Maritime Museum from the estate of Capt. William J. L. Parker in November and December 2006.

PROVENANCE

There is no documentation in Capt. Parker's papers that would indicate how or where he acquired this collection.

RESTRICTIONS

There are no restrictions on the study or use of these materials.

PHYSICAL CONDITION

Other than the normal surface wear and minor tears, the papers of John B. Stahl are in good condition.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Capt. John B. Stahl Jr. Born in Waldoboro (ME) on November 26, 1848, the son of master mariner John B. Stahl and Elizabeth Stahl, Capt. Stahl Jr. was a master mariner himself by the age of 21. He was descended from 18th century German settlers of Waldoboro, a number of whom became captains and shipbuilders.

The earliest vessel we know for certain he commanded was the new 1874 Waldoboro-built barkentine *Josephine*, of New York City. Then there are the three documented in this collection. A bit later, he appears to have taken the 1891 East Deering (ME) three-mast schooner *Gladys*. There are four earlier vessels commanded by a John B. Stahl, but they are more likely to have been his father's. See the Museum's index of Maine Sea Captains.

In 1871 he married Ella L. Keene in Waldoboro, and in 1873 their only child, son Clinton B. was born. In 1909 Clinton married a child of another Waldoboro maritime dynasty, Ida C. Welt, but he remained a merchant all his life.

In the 1910 census Capt. Stahl Jr. is still listing himself as "Sailor, merchant vessels." In 1917 he even received a provisional appointment as a Lieutenant Commander in the US Naval Reserve Force, but was never mobilized. In the 1920 census he was widowed, living with Clinton and Ida, and not listing an occupation at all. In fact, he died on January 14, 1920, of cerebral apoplexy lasting 10 days, with a contributing cause of high blood pressure.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTES

The Capt. John B Stahl Jr. papers consists of one charter party document of the barkentine *E. O. Clark*, and various vessel papers of the four-mast schooner *Nimbus* including insurance papers, correspondence with brokers Smith & Gregory (New York) and J. H. Flinter & Co. (Boston), invoices, charter parties, freight & cargo receipts and portage accounts. Most of the time Stahl appears to have been in command of the *Nimbus*, but there is some correspondence from Capt. William A. Keene indicating that Keene took command of the vessel for a time in 1900-1901. Keene reports to Stahl as if Stahl were the vessel's owner, but addresses him as "Dear Brother." The vessel papers of the bark *William Hales* consists of ownership papers (bills of sale for shares and a copy of a certificate of registry), and a receipt and documents of protest regarding the bark being struck by the steamer *Niagara*, as a result of which the bark sank immediately.

PROCESSING NOTES

The collection was separated into three groups representing the different vessels. The organization within each vessel is as follows:

- Ownership
- Insurance
- Construction accounts
- Correspondence
- Accounts
 - Summary
 - General Invoices (by geographic location)
 - Charter parties
 - Freight & cargo
 - Crew including Portage accounts
 - Protest papers

ORGANIZATION OF SERIES

MS-432 Capt. John B. Stahl Papers 1892-1903

SERIES I. VESSELS

- Series IA. *E. O. Clark* (Barkentine) 1892
- Series IB. *Nimbus* (Four-mast schooner) 1898-1903
- Series IC. *William Hales* (Bark) 1893-96

FINDING AIDS

MS-432 CAPT. JOHN B. STAHL JR. PAPERS

SERIES I. VESSEL PAPERS

Subseries IA. E. O. Clark (Barkentine)

BOX FOLDER

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | 1 | Charter Party, 1892 |
|
<i>Subseries IB. <u>Nimbus</u> (Four-mast schooner)</i> | | |
| 2 | | Insurance, 1898 |
| 3 | | Construction accounts — n.d. |
| 4 | | Correspondence—Incoming, General — 1898-1902 |
| 5 | | Capt. Wm. A. Keene — 1900-01 |
| 6 | | Smith & Gregory, 1900-01 |
| 7 | | Z. S. Steelman, 1901 |
| 8 | | J. H. Flitner & Co., 1898 |
| 9 | | 1899 |
| 10 | | 1900 |
| 11 | | 1901-02 |
| 12 | | Mutual Trans. & Stevedore Co., 1901, 1903 |
| 13 | | Correspondence—Outgoing, 1902 |
| 14 | | Account summaries—Capt. Wm. A. Keene, 1900 |
| 15 | | J. H. Flitner & Co., 1898-1900 |
| | | Accounts |
| 16 | | General, Boston, Sept.-Oct. 1898 |
| 17 | | Annapolis, N.S., Nov 1898 |
| 18 | | Rosario, Santa Fe, ARG, Jan.—Mar. 1899 |
| 19 | | Boston, Apr. 1899 |
| 20 | | Providence, R.I., Sept. 1899 |
| 21 | | New York, Jan. 1900 |
| 22 | | Bath, June-July 1900 |
| 23 | | Boston, July-Aug. 1900 |
| 24 | | Bangor, Aug. 1900 |
| 25 | | Philadelphia (PA) & Camden (NJ), Aug. 1900 |
| 26 | | Bath, Sept. 1900 |
| 27 | | Philadelphia, Apr. 1901 |
| 28 | | New York, Apr.-May 1901 |
| 29 | | Pascagoula, June 1901 |
| 30 | | Other, 1900-01 |
| 31 | | Charter party, 1898 |
| 32 | | Freight & cargo, 1900 |

Subseries IB. Nimbus (Four-mast schooner) continued

BOX FOLDER

1	33	Crew, Portage account, 1899
	34	Crew, Wages, 1900

Subseries IC. William Hales (Bark)

35	Ownership, 1893
36	Receipt, 1895 (<i>Bark Wm. Hales & Os. to E. O. Clark, Dr.</i>)
37	Protest, collision with S/S <i>Niagara</i> , 1895-96